



People's Republic of China: UN Position Paper

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As The People's Republic of China is a developing country it considers relations between North and South nations of vital importance. China's significant population of ~1.3 billion is in an ongoing process of rapid urbanisation while at the same time its economy is also becoming increasingly industrial. Therefore, with respect to international diplomacy and in accordance with the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities, equity and respective capabilities, China remains committed to promoting common development on the international scale. China often breaks the rules of international diplomatic courtesy and is raising as a global power that is a threat to the USA, who wants to remain as the hegemon. However in November 2014, the heads of the USA and China pledged to cooperate more effectively on global issues including climate change. This has started a new era of multilateral climate diplomacy as well as a new pillar in North-South bilateral relations. Implementing domestic climate policies is a factor that strengthen coordination and cooperation between global powers as well as a promotion of sustainable development. The cooperation has led to US- China Green Fund, that is commercially-run private equity fund initiated by business and government leaders from both states. The Green Fund contributes to green sustainable development in both countries through collaborations in finance, green technology and business model. The Fund is committed to promoting advanced western technologies in China. The Fund invests in: traditional green investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, environmental protection, and green cities and villages.

After ratifying the Paris Agreement, China has established the following Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to address climate change:

- Peak carbon dioxide emissions around 2030 with the best effort to peak early;
- Lower carbon dioxide emissions by 60-65% per unit of GDP compared to the 2005 level;
- Increase the share of non-fossil fuels as a primary energy consumption to around 20%;
- Increase the forest stock volume by roughly 4.5 billion cubic meters compared with 2005 level.

In order to achieve these NDCs, a number of policies are put in place. As of 2009, China has agreed on and implemented multiple national and international climate agreements which, as of 2014 achieved: reduction of carbon dioxide per GDP unit to 33.8% lower than 2005 as well as increasing the input of non-carbon energy consumption by 11.2%.

To increase national efforts in tackling climate change, China has also recently unveiled its 13th Five Year Plan, which sets a cap on national energy consumption and seeks to lower the percentage of coal in primary energy consumption. The Plan also encourages higher use of non-fossil fuel in primary energy consumption and promotes installation of wind, solar and hydro energy with higher capacity.

In order to further the country's climate action and strengthen the NDCs, the following changes are recommended to be made:

- Updating NDCs as majority of them are within reach;
- Including quantified measures and restrictions on non greenhouse gas emissions;
- Including other greenhouse gases such as methane and nitrous oxide into national framework.